ഒരു സംഗതിനിങ്ങൾ പ്രത്യേകമായിട്ടുപറഞ്ഞതു പകരം ജോലി നോക്കുന്നവക്കു ശമ്പളക്രൂടുതൽ കിട്ടുന്നില്ലഎന്നുള്ളതിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു്. അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ ചിലഭേദഗതികൾ ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ അതു് ഒരു വലിയ വിഷയമാണു്. അതായതു പണസംബന്ധമായ ഒരു വലിയവിഷയമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടുനമുക്കു സുലഭമായി പറഞ്ഞുപോകാമെങ്കിലും നടപ്പിൽകൊണ്ടുവരാൻ വിഷമമുള്ളതാണു്. അതുക്രൂടി ആലോചിച്ചിട്ടല്ലാതെ ആ കാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രവർത്തിക്കാൻ തരമില്ല. എങ്കിലും നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞഭാഗങ്ങളെപ്പറ്റി ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽ നിന്നും ഗാഢമായി ആലോചിക്കാം.

നിങ്ങൾ ഡെയിസിൽ ഇരിക്കുന്ന ആളുകൾക്കു പറഞ്ഞമംഗളാശംസയ്ക്കു തിരിച്ചുമംഗളം ആശംസിക്കുന്നു.

[In regard to public service, there are one or two members more who wish to speak on that subject. A common reply will be given after they have spoken.

In regard to the grant of increments to acting hands in the public service, it is a large question from the financial point of view. It cannot be disposed of without knowing the additional expenditure involved. Anyhow, the views expressed will be carefully considered.

On behalf of those seated on the *dais*, I have great pleasure in reciprocating the sentiments of good wishes given expression to by you.]

181. Public Service—a few reflections and suggestions

MR. K. C. EAPEN (*Trading Classes, Trivandrum*) said that communal concord was invaluable for the country's progress. The energies which were being wasted in the scramble for offices should be conserved and directed towards the economic rehabilitation of the country. The preference shown by heads of departments towards the members of their own communities created friction between the several communities. There would be harmony in the country if every community secured for itself its fair share of Government appointments. The principle of communal representation should be accepted and followed. If efficiency were accepted as the sole determining factor, the unrepresented communities would remain so for ever.

An Ezhava member of the Assembly said that though the Revenue Department was thrown open to all communities as the result of a vigorous agitation, the new opportunities which the Ezhavas hoped to make their own were captured by the other communities who participated in the agitation. That allegation was untrue so far as the Jacobite community was concerned. There was no Jacobite Christian in the ranks of the Revenue Department, save one or two clerks and Proverthicars.

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The Secretariat, the High Court and the Account Office were the important offices from which recruitments were made to the various departments. In the last 15 years the Jacobite Christians who were appointed as clerks in the Account Office and High Court were 2 and 1 respectively. There were only two members of the community in the Secretariat. They had long remained there as clerks without any promotion. They should be given the promotions which they deserved.

The representation of neglected communities in public service should be strengthened.

Speaking about the law's delays, the member said that swift justice was the law's ideal; but every now and then it was brought home to the public how far the reality fell short of it. In the law courts, adjournments after adjournments took place, to the loss, inconvenience and possible ruin of the parties. In consequence, bankers and merchants fought shy of courts. That problem should be seriously graplped with, if the administration of law in the State should not fall into disrepute.

The promises made by Government in connection with the representations made in the Assembly in the last 12 years should be carried out without further delay. A separate section should be created in the Secretariat for that work and placed under the control of one of the two Secretaries to be newly appointed. As the circulars issued by Government were not being obeyed by heads of departments, caste-war statements of appointments should be periodically obtained from them for scrutiny by Government. A Secretary should be appointed for that work.

As the Chief Engineer's work was too heavy, the post of the Deputy Chief Engineer, which was abolished, should be resuscitated.

The notion was widespread that the Police officers and constables were corrupt. As a remedy, their pay should be enhanced.

The Dewan's work should be lightened by the creation of an Executive Council.

A tuberculosis hospital should be opened in Travancore. Government were already considering the matter. Considerations of cost should not deter them from issuing orders for building operations being started at an early date.

DEWAN'S REPLY. Mr. Eapen, though the main point mentioned in your list of subjects was public service, a few reflections and suggestions, still you devoted most of your time to the consideration of communal representation in the public service. As I have already said, I will give an answer to that after hearing one or two members more who propose to deal with the subject.

The other matter you mentioned was the necessity for a tuberculosis hospital. No doubt, we all know that there is a large number of

cases of tuberculosis in the State and that there are many people in Travancore now who are undergoing treatment in the Madanapalle Hospital. As you yourself said, the matter is engaging the attention of Government.

One other matter you mentioned was the establishment of an Executive Council in the State. There are other speakers also to deal with the subject. I will give my reply at the end of their representations.

182. Reform of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly.

MR. KANAKKU NARAYANA PILLAI GOVINDA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara taluk, Group II*) said that a drastic change in the constitution of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly was an imperative necessity. The institution should be invested with some measure of responsibility and power and should have a statutory basis. The property qualification of voters was too high. Only those who paid an annual tax of Rs. 50 had the franchise. The improvement in material conditions and the spread of education and political knowledge in recent years had given birth to a new political consciousness, not only among the well-to-do classes but very widely throughout the masses. In the countries of the west, the process of widening the electorate was carried on till it embraced the whole adult population, male and female. As a first step in that direction, all persons who paid a tax of Rs. 25 should be made voters for the election of members to the Assembly.

The term of membership in the Assembly should be extended to three years.

The bi-cameral system of legislation prevalent in the countries of the west should be introduced, the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly being treated as the Second Chamber. Members of the Assembly should be empowered to ask questions and to move resolutions.

A committee, consisting of representatives of the Assembly and of the Legislative Council as well as a few official members, should be appointed to revise the constitution of the Assembly.

183 Public Service.

MR. A. P. NAYAR (*Municipal Council, Neyyattinkara*) said that corruption was rampant in the lower ranks of the Revenue and Judicial departments, and made the following suggestions for bringing about an improvement in the morale of the departments. In law, the receiver as well as the giver of illegal gratification was alike punishable. The receipt of illegal gratification should alone be regarded as an offence. Corrupt officers should be treated with ruthless severity and be made an example of.

There was unpardonable delay in the disposal of matters affecting the public weal. The remedy lay in making public service amenable to popular control.